BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW MINUTES

The Board of Architectural Review held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2015, at 4:00p.m. in Council Chambers, Rouss City Hall, 15 North Cameron Street, Winchester, Virginia.

POINTS OF ORDER:

PRESENT: Chairman Rockwood, Mr. Serafin, Mr. Walker, Ms. Jackson, Ms. Elgin, Ms. Schroth

ABSENT: Vice Chairman Bandyke

STAFF: Josh Crump, Aaron Grisdale, Carolyn Barrett

VISITORS: Sam Simpson, Samuel Leinbach, Alexander Kilimnik

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Rockwood called for corrections or additions to the minutes of June 4, 2015. Hearing none, Chairman Rockwood called for a motion. Ms. Jackson moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. Voice vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

CONSENT AGENDA:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

BAR-15-327 Request of Samuel P. Leinbach Jr. for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace and add new storm windows at 317 Fairmont Avenue.

Mr. Leinbach presented his project and gave information about the windows he would like to use. The board members asked questions about the window details. Mr. Leinbach said he was going to replace six windows in the sleeping porch upstairs to start with.

Mr. Walker made a motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to **BAR-15-327** as submitted for the new storm windows and flush mount installation style. Mr. Serafin seconded the motion. Voice vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

BAR-15-336 Request of Samuel Simpson for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace vinyl windows in the front of the house with wood windows at 210 South Washington Street.

Mr. Simpson proposed to remove the front vinyl windows and replace them with wood windows. He explained it would be a financial hardship to replace all the windows in the house at the same time. Each window is a different size and custom made for the opening it is in. He would have to remove and reframe the openings for standard sized windows. Mr. Serafin said custom-made wood windows are available. Mr. Simpson said he was having a hard time finding them and the board members named several businesses that carried them.

Mr. Walker said the Board was in a tough position because the windows had already been replaced with vinyl. If they granted a Certificate of Appropriateness, it would set a dangerous precedent for that kind of action to continue. There are guidelines they have to adhere to. He would like to see wood windows on the three sides of the house that are visible and consider the back of the house a separate issue.

Mr. Simpson said he had exhausted all funds making renovations to the house and was in danger of losing it. Had he known the house was in the Historic District, he would not have used vinyl windows. Mr. Serafin said the monetary aspects of a case cannot bear on their decision. They would have to verify financial hardship on every case. Chairman Rockwood suggested the front façade be changed and then give a lengthy period of time to replace the remainder. Mr. Simpson asked what would happen if he had to sell the home. Chairman Rockwood said he could appeal to the City Council. Staff can advise what steps he would need to take to do so. After further discussion by the Board, Chairman Rockwood called for a motion.

Mr. Serafin made a motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to **BAR-15-336** to replace the wood windows that were existent in the house on the front and side of the house with wood windows as included in the application with simulated divided lights. The one vinyl window on the side of the house to be left as is. The windows on the back of the house to be replaced with vinyl windows. The windows in the front of the house to be replaced within one year. The windows on the side of the house to be replaced within two years. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. Voice vote was taken and the motioned passed 5-0. Ms. Schroth abstained.

BAR-15-334 Request of Alexander Kilimnik for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the addition/repair of a deck at 107 East Cecil Street.

Mr. Kilimnik spoke about the project and his intentions for the home. He started work in October 2014. He was not aware of the Historic District requirements when he replaced the windows. Mr. Grisdale gave a description and timeframe of the repairs and zoning violations that have occurred on the property since May 2015.

Mr. Kilimnik said he had assumed only houses that had historic plaques needed prior approval for work and his neighbors had the same assumptions. He talked about measures he had taken to protect the house while the stop work order is in effect. He spoke about the condition of the house when he purchased it. Chairman Rockwood asked how many doors and windows had been replaced. Mr. Kilimnik said eight windows and three doors and described their condition before replacement.

Mr. Kilimnik explained his reasons for purchasing the vinyl windows. He had observed similar windows in other parts of the Historic District. Chairman Rockwood pointed out that what was seen on the street may have been done before the BAR existed or could have been a like-for-like replacement. He explained the guidelines concerning integrity of materials and gave examples.

Mr. Serafin made a motion to table **BAR-15-334** until the application is revised and resubmitted. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion. Voice vote was taken and the motioned passed 5-0.

Ms. Schroth departed the meeting at 5:05pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

BAR-15-196 Request of 309 BRAD LLC for new construction at 309 North Braddock Street. (Conceptual discussion)

Mr. Crump reviewed what was discovered during the demolition of the old building. Ms. Bouffault explained what the structural engineer found about the integrity of the remaining part of the building. Mr. Crump clarified they were to discuss the materials selected for the project. Ms. Bouffault said the new walls would be made of brick instead of stucco now that the concrete walls were gone. The Board members reviewed and discussed drawings Ms. Bouffault presented.

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None.

ADJOURN:

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33pm.